Report of the Debt Redemption Committee.

31. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Committee appointed to submit a report upon the Agricultural Debt Redemption in the State has submitted its report ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the report would be published before it is finally accepted and acted upon by the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) and (*b*) Yes.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : May I know the date on which the Report was submitted to Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : 15th of Kanni this year.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*) : May I know the date on which it was published ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : About 10 or 15 days ago.

Drainage channels in Tonnallur and Kadakkad.

32. *MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that, due to want of proper drainage channels, a large part of the cultivation and a large number of houses in Tonnallur and Kadakkad are under water even during normal floods ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether any step has been taken to save the ryots from such disastrous effects of the floods ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. Estimates are under preparation for improvements to the drainage channels in Tonnalloor and Kadakkad.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : With regard to answer to part (*a*) of the question, may I know whether it has been reported to Government that, owing to the delay in the repair of these drainage channels, great loss is caused to the inhabitants of those *pakuthies*?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I do not think so.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has it not been brought to the notice, as admitted in the answer, that a large part of the cultivable area and a large number of houses in Tonnallur and Kadakkad are under water even during normal floods ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Yes.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has it not been brought to the notice of Government that, unless this work is carried on promptly, the people will have to suffer this loss almost periodically?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I understand that the work that is proposed would benefit about 11 acres of land and the cost would come to Rs. 1,340. There have been several questions and communications with the Division Officer and we are trying to get out a satisfactory scheme for improving these particular channels.

Paddy fields on the side of the Vamanapuram River.

33. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is possible to water the paddy-fields that lie adjacent to the Vamanapuram river by erecting water-pumps by the side of the river:

(*b*) the approximate cost of erecting one water-pump;

(*c*) the approximate extent of paddy-fields for which water could be supplied by erecting one water-pump; and

(*d*) whether the Minor Irrigation Department has investigated the possibility of watering the paddy-fields by the side of the Vamanapuram river by erecting water-pumps?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes, but at too heavy a cost both initial and recurring.

(*b*) Rs. 15,000.

(*c*) 50 acres.

(*d*) Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that, as a result of the investigation conducted by the Minor Irrigation Department, as stated in part (*d*) of the answer, that in hundreds of *paras* of paddy fields, annually there is failure of crop, and that hundreds of *paras* of paddy fields are lying waste by the side of the Vamanapuram river.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): What I understand is that the last failure of crops in the fields under reference was about 20 years ago and it would cost about 15,000 rupees to irrigate about 50 acres *i. e.* Rs. 300 per acre.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that failure of crops in regard to paddy fields that lie on both sides of Vamanapuram river occurs very often?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): My information regarding your interpellation is that the last failure of crops in the fields under reference was about 25 years ago.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): If the irrigation and watering the fields is not possible, I wish to know what suggestion the Minor Irrigation Department has made to the Government in order to supply water for paddy cultivation there?

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